

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR WRITING  
MULTIPLE TRACKS OF AN OPTICAL DISK

Field of the Invention

*this application claims benefit of 60/260468  
1-8-01*

The present invention relates to optical disk  
5 drives which can read and write optical disks. More  
specifically, the present invention provides a multi-  
beam optical system for simultaneously writing multiple  
tracks of an optical disk.

Background of the Invention

10 Current writable optical disk technologies  
include several write-once technologies, such as CD-  
Recordable (CD-R) and DVD-Recordable (DVD-R), as well  
as re-writeable technologies, such as CD-Re-writeable  
(CD-RW), DVD Re-writeable (DVD-RW), and DVD-RAM.  
15 Data is typically recorded on writeable  
optical disks by using a writing beam having a higher  
power than is used for reading. The media for use with  
optical disk writers typically includes a recording  
layer, made of a material which changes its optical  
20 characteristics in response to the presence of the beam  
from the high power laser. The high power laser is  
used to create "pits" in the recording layer which have  
a different reflectivity than surrounding areas of the

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